

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

Sub C1
1-208. (Cancelled)

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209. (New) A method comprising the steps of:

defining a time period having a start time and an end time;
associating a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with the time period;
receiving a request for purchasing a television service corresponding to the viewing parameter;
enabling a purchase of the television service responsive to receiving the request during the defined time period; and
preventing the purchase of the television service responsive to receiving the request outside the defined time period.

210. (New) The method of claim 209, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

211. (New) The method of claim 209, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

212. (New) The method of claim 209, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

213. (New) The method of claim 209, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.

214. (New) A method comprising the steps of:

defining a time period having a start time and an end time;

associating a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with the time period;

receiving a request for recording a television service corresponding to the viewing parameter;

enabling the recording of the television service responsive to receiving the request during the defined time period; and

preventing the recording of the television service responsive to receiving the request outside the defined time period.

215. (New) The method of claim 214, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

216. (New) The method of claim 214, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

217. (New) The method of claim 214, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

218. (New) The method of claim 214, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.

219. (New) A method comprising the steps of:

defining a time period having a start time and an end time;

associating a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with the time period;

receiving from a user a request for a television service corresponding to the viewing parameter;

preventing the television service from being provided to the user responsive to receiving the request during the defined time period; and

providing the television service to the user responsive to receiving the request outside the defined time period.

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cont.
220. (New) The method of claim 219, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

221. (New) The method of claim 219, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

222. (New) The method of claim 219, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

223. (New) The method of claim 219, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.

224. (New) A television set-top terminal (STT) comprising:
memory configured to store program instructions; and
a processor that is programmed by the program instructions to:
define a time period having a start time and an end time;
associate a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with
the time period;
receive a request for purchasing a television service corresponding to the viewing
parameter;
enable a purchase of the television service responsive to receiving the
request during the defined time period; and
prevent the purchase of the television service responsive to receiving
the request outside the defined time period.

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Cont. 225. (New) The STT of claim 224, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

226. (New) The STT of claim 224, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

227. (New) The STT of claim 224, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

228. (New) The STT of claim 224, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.

229. (New) A television set-top terminal (STT) comprising:
memory configured to store program instructions; and
a processor that is programmed by the program instructions to:
define a time period having a start time and an end time;
associate a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with
the time period;
receive a request for recording a television service corresponding to the viewing
parameter;
enable the recording of the television service responsive to receiving the request
during the defined time period; and
prevent the recording of the television service responsive to receiving the request
outside the defined time period.

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cont.
230. (New) The STT of claim 229, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

231. (New) The STT of claim 229, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

232. (New) The STT of claim 229, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

233. (New) The STT of claim 229, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.

234. (New) A television set-top terminal (STT) comprising:

memory configured to store program instructions; and

a processor that is programmed by the program instructions to:

define a time period having a start time and an end time;

associate a user preference corresponding to at least one viewing parameter with

the time period;

receive from a user a request for a television service corresponding to the viewing
parameter;

prevent the television service from being provided to the user responsive to
receiving the request during the defined time period; and

provide the television service to the user responsive to receiving the request
outside the defined time period.

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Contd.
235. (New) The STT of claim 234, wherein the time period is defined responsive to user input.

236. (New) The STT of claim 234, wherein the user preference is defined responsive to user input.

237. (New) The STT of claim 234, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a television service.

238. (New) The STT of claim 234, wherein the at least one viewing parameter corresponds to a characteristic of a television service.